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EDMUND DRAGON, } EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.
ROBERT PETERSON, }

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

CLUBS—FOR TERMS TO CLUBS SEE PROSPECTUS ON FIRST PAGE.

DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXXIII. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1854. WHOLE NO. 1694.

Original Novelet.

THE DE OF THE WILDERNESS.

[Entered according to the Act of Congress, by the Author, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.]

CHAPTER III.

A STRANGER GUEST.

Silence or inviolable attention were opened by Ada and the simpleton in reaching the house the adventure of the latter had created with the Indian—they took a circuitous route, and approached the rook with extreme caution. The light of the fire enabled them to see an object when brought before their eyes, but at the same time rendered themselves almost invisible to others. Ada and the simpleton, therefore, could do nothing with an inhabitant of the house, but remain where they took post, and watch. The simpleton was the sign which conveyed the intelligence perfectly intelligible. To some friends a Chinese movement may be read by 500 millions of people, but more, perhaps, than understand the spoken language of the Celestial Empire.

[illegible] Reward.—Every [illegible] his destiny in his own [illegible] to witness, he may be, if he cannot but be happy. Like the [illegible] manner, he may and will be [illegible] and acquainted with grief"—[illegible] shall flow like a river, [illegible] but happiness shall roll [illegible] peaceful sea; following [illegible] they bear him to the brightest [illegible] beyond the touch. [illegible] act then tried by these infinite [illegible] and the destiny assigned [illegible] be the master of thy life [illegible] and your triumph shall be [illegible] a single young man who [illegible] guided by a virtuous [illegible] of success, and to and fro in the earth, [illegible] storms beat upon [illegible] day, but every sun of [illegible] has been victorious, has won [illegible] victories, he may be [illegible] never born.—*Harry Woodfall.*

Wife or Loser.—Which [illegible] of the two? Which [illegible] those living in the [illegible] the Volga are more degraded [illegible] than the people of [illegible] travelled; and they can [illegible] to be found in the world [illegible] to the number of fifty [illegible] the rapids of Niagara [illegible] to lose an object with the [illegible] the extensive conservatory [illegible] otherwise, knowing the spot, [illegible] in the darkness and gloom [illegible], he might have approached, in the [illegible] for did, for the flower [illegible] easily.

Again, the result was [illegible] that, in talking, the Indian should have [illegible] against a rock in such a manner [illegible] of consciousness, if not of [illegible]

Strange.—A correspondent of the Cork Corral, says that he has [illegible] of a man of fourscore and [illegible] is becoming quite celebrated [illegible] resigned with his wife [illegible] at all times surrounds it. [illegible] but little from the hills [illegible] of being covered [illegible] large and black rocks. [illegible] the temperature of its atmosphere [illegible] the Indian under the cover of the [illegible] Cuba and Dick stand [illegible] Dick thinks [illegible] the Major, [illegible] pace-knot, proceeded to make an [illegible] of the wound, with the view, as [illegible] checked, of restoring the savage to life, [illegible] a clue to his secret. The Indian [illegible] sudden stir, partially recovered [illegible] hideously pained. With the pains, [illegible] the wound had subsided in some [illegible] to his beauty; and on [illegible] this blood, with a cloth dipped [illegible] the gaunt cause of all this.

[illegible] what have we here?" exclaimed [illegible] as he examined the wounded man with [illegible] surprise. "Hollo! my old friend!—Why, as I'm a living [illegible] Dutchman!"

"Dutchman!" exclaimed the Indian, indeed!" said Mrs. Hargrave. "Poor [illegible] he must be savage from the Indian [illegible]."

"Likely he is some worthless renegado, [illegible] some other quarter," observed the [illegible] "Hand the scrip, there, some [illegible] for to try their other inside, since [illegible] application—I profound much use in [illegible] this. I'm now more zealous than ever [illegible] to know the why and the wherefore [illegible] this."

Saying this, he proceeded to bind the [illegible] hand and foot. This done, he inquired, in a [illegible] manner, if he had succeeded in [illegible] him, I will ascertain that he is not dead [illegible]

Saying this, the Major pried open the wounded [illegible], with the handle of a spoon, and [illegible] small quantity of liquor into his [illegible] head, lying back, with the face [illegible] with his spirits to run down his [illegible] severe stimulation was not [illegible] tongued, and choked, for a few moments [illegible] the Major was successful [illegible] raising himself into a sitting posture, [illegible] his senses, so one who knew not [illegible] what to say.

"Ah!" said Hargrave, rather roughly, [illegible] to the Indian, "you are not dead [illegible] you have no under close inspection?"

"You are just about as much of an Indian as I am," returned the Major, flouting; "and I'm a Dutchman, as you call me, though in all that pertains to savage life, I'm as much of a native among red-devils, as I know to be among civilized [illegible]."

"Indian," protested the other.

"Yes, Indian," repeated the Major, cried the flushing with anger; for, being one of those persons who speak with the greatest [illegible] with a starting vehemence; "I have you to know, that my name is not Dutchman, but [illegible] with that white skin covering, you'll see your left hand, there, from which I've removed the joint, and then tell me you [illegible] again, if you dare!"

The stranger looked at his hand, and his [illegible] fell, and he hung his head in silence.

Then he raised his head to the wound; [illegible] to cause him no little astonishment; for, glancing furtively around, he [illegible] a friend!

"Friend!" replied Major Heyle, [illegible] in front of him, with the air of a general who had just won a battle; "I did, I do!"

"Ay, and did it as never mortal did it before," [illegible] the Major, laughing in spite of himself, as the ludicrous picture of the double [illegible] itself in his mind from the dexterity [illegible] which the shepherd had given him of [illegible] whole affair. "Talk about new inventions, Major Heyle! Why, if you are not the king's patent [illegible] to sell their own secret out, I think you need never trouble your noble head about such matters as growing dry [illegible]

"Ah, Major," cried the simpleton, eagerly, "since you have touched on that subject—that subject which still lies nearest my heart of all—tell me now yes if Colin, here, your proxy, did use the lesser to inform you of the real secret which I accepted in him?"

"Why, time' Reley," put in Cuba—who, hearing himself that spoken of, felt he had a right to speak for himself—"I only gwine to gib Massa Hargrave de invidcous explanation, which I did do accordingly."

"Silence!" interrupted the Major; "and at last to your business, Cuba! Come, stranger," he continued, addressing the wounded man, "since I have you to be a while man, with an English tongue in your head, I wish to know more of you. Who are you? what is your name? where do you belong? what is your occupation? and why were you in company with any camp here, contrased and bedacked like an Indian?"

"All you ask, sir, is a secret," replied the stranger, in a firmer and more decided tone than he had hitherto spoken. "Yet are a stranger to me," he continued, "as I am to you; would you tell me your secret?"

"Not unless it were a secret by which the world could be rid of you."

"Or by which the world was fended, and his eyes flashed, as he rejoined.

"You are a strong one, sir, and are surrounded by your family and slaves; I am wounded, and weak, and unarmed; and therefore, just such an object as you can handle with impunity."

"No, by my soul!" cried the generous hearted Major, flinging with them, "your hand, stranger," he continued, frankly, extended, "and be you friend or foe, I like you, for you have had some hard knocks in my time; but you have just given me the kindest hit I ever had in my life. Your secret is safe with me, and that I look again at your face, hang me if I can not believe you are a cursed renegade after all."

"Whatever I am as an orator," replied the stranger, returning the grasp, "I will not leave the Major in doubt whether honesty or dishonesty was the predominant trait of his character."

"Well, whatever he whatever you may be," replied the Major, "you are a man after my own heart, and answer, and answer truly, for your very life depends upon what you do say. Were you certifying our camp with a sinister purpose in your heart?"

"Sinister purpose! I should say I was!"

"Then I would give you credit for an honest confession, which should go in your favor."

"Suppose I should say I was not?"

"Why, I suppose you should say one way or the other," returned the Major, drawing up his carry again; "and then, I suppose, I should know better what to do reply."

"I decline answering your question," replied the stranger, somewhat sullenly.

"Then you may consider yourself a prisoner."

"Very well—be it so."

"And let me further add," continued the Major, in a still sharper tone, with a little relief at the cool indifference displayed by the strange captive; "should our camp be attacked before morning, the head of your heart shall be the first drawn."

"Very well—be it so," was again replied, in the same tone of indifference.

"By the King's life!" muttered Hargrave, as he turned away to get a rope—"I do not know what to make of the fellow. He is a puzzle. His looks have a mixture of honesty and deliberate villainy in them. Well, if his late harsher treatment that he deserves, he will become a friend. Under the circumstances, I feel it my duty to see to service."

Returning with a strong rope in his hand, he said to the stranger:

"The circumstances which have placed you in my power, sir, are of very questionable complexion. As you refuse to enter into any explanation, you will have no good reason to complain if I take measures to secure you against escape."

"I shall make no complaints," returned the stranger, quietly. "Bind me with—do what you see proper."

"Are you not afraid?" resumed the Major, hesitating.

The stranger looked him full in the eye—looked long and steadily. There was nothing like impudence in his gaze—nothing like quailing. Hargrave was more puzzled than ever.

"I do not know what to make of you," he said, at last; "but I feel ashamed to suffer at least you are honest, or you are the most consummate villain that ever lived. I will not do what I consider to be my duty, however; and if I do you wrong, I shall at any time, when convinced of my error, be willing to make you any reparation that lies in my power."

Saying this, he proceeded to bind the stranger hand and foot. This done, he inquired, in a more kindly manner, if he had succeeded in [illegible] him, I will ascertain that he is not dead [illegible]

"Only leave me to myself," was the reply.

"But not till we have bound up your wound, which is still bleeding," interrupted Gertrude, in a gentle, kindly tone.

"Let my wound bleed—I desire no attention from you," was the reply, delivered in a tone of bitterness.

Saying this, he proceeded to bind the stranger, who had previously taken no notice of Gertrude, now turned his head upon her for several moments, during which time a slight convulsion seemed to pass over his features, and of his features from which the paint and blood had been removed. There was something in that look which caused Gertrude to withdraw her eyes, though she could not tell why; and the Major marveling that his wife, stranger, her, by addressing the wounded man in a tone calculated to break the spell, if spell there was.

"You have been asked a civil question, sir," he said, "and you have been told that you did not understand this lady?"

The wounded man fixed his eye upon Hargrave, and said, in a low, deep voice, [illegible] phrase:

"Words are sometimes spoken, that the heart understands as well as the head."

This reply did not please Hargrave, who frowned heavily.

"Come! come! there must be no reasoning here! You are not a knight in disguise, that in this charade I am to fall in love with you, if you were. I assure you, sir, if you were as black as my Cuba, there, Miss Willows would have addressed to you the same inquiry, and in the same kindly tone."

"Then, sir, is her heart right; and she is too kind and gentle a being to be taken into the confidence, and exposed to all the hardships and hostess," was the rejoinder, uttered in a thoughtful, almost melancholy tone. "As to reasoning," he added, quickly, in an altered voice, "I pray you not to put any such construction upon my words. I simply meant to say, that, while I understood what she said, I felt the kindliness of her inquiry in my heart. But I have not answered her question; and my head, which begins to swim once more I should answer it in the affirmative. If you will bind up my wound, and allow me something for a pillow, and enough covering to keep off the cold night air, I shall feel that, though a captive, I am not in the hands of cannibals."

"You shall use neither through any neglect of mine, his permitted or foe," rejoined the Major. "I may sometimes be rough in speech," he continued, as a sort of apology for what he had said; "but I think my worst enemy would not accuse me of harboring malice against any creature which God has made."

He then set about dressing the wound of his captive-guest, which was not a very serious one; and having finished, he placed him in very comfortable quarters, and assured him he had nothing to fear so long as he remained quiet and the camp undisturbed by prowling wildness.

The stranger thanked him; said he was satisfied he was in good hands; hoped all would rest well, observed that he felt very drowsy himself; and, soon after, appeared to be lost in a deep sleep.

Major Hargrave now bade the children, the simpleton, and Aunt Chloe, to lie down, and get what sleep they could; and, calling his dog and Gertrude aside, inquired what they thought of the stranger.

"Some man," he said, "think women are unit to counsel with on any subject; but I, on the contrary, believe, that if men would take the advice of women on all occasions of importance, they would have fewer errors to regret. There is a quick, active, intuitive perception in women, that amounts almost to prescientment or an instinct; and now, from this sensible faculty, I wish judgment rendered upon the stranger."

"If you wish an impartial decision, you should never dictor the judge," replied Gertrude, with a smile. "However, as to the stranger, I do not think we have any thing to fear from him. What has led him to assume this disguise, is more than I can tell, of course; but he is certainly a man of mind and education."

"I see!" rejoined Hargrave, with a meaning smile: "if we wish an impartial decision, we should never allow the culprit to flatter the judge. Well, wife, what say you?"

"My opinion is the same as Gertrude's," replied Mrs. Hargrave. "I cannot think the man means to harm us."

"Well, hang it, I'm of the same opinion," rejoined the Major; "and I have half a notion to cut his cords and let him go. But then," he added, ruefully, "what was a shilling about our camp in such disguise? and, if really honest, why did he refuse to give an explanation?"

"Would not a villain give an explanation if he saved there was a chance for him to get off?" suggested Gertrude. "His firm refusal to answer your questions, not knowing what the consequences might be, is to my mind a strong evidence that he is both a man of courage and an honest man."

"There is something in that, too," said Hargrave, musing. "Well, what say you—shall I set him free?"

"Perhaps it would be better to let him remain as he is to-night, Edward," answered Mrs. Hargrave. "Whatever our feelings may be, we must remember we are in the wilderness, with little or no protection; and that the lives of our dear children, as well as our own, are in jeopardy."

"True, true, Sarah; you are right: we must be cautious—for their sakes, if not for our own. Well, the matter is decided. You, wife, and Gertrude, and Cuba and I will stand guard; or, rather, I will remain up all night, and Cuba and Dick shall take turns."

Having thus settled the matter, the Major went to take a look at his horses, which were fastened to some saplings on the western side of the hut. As it was impossible to carry but with him, the principal feed of the horses consisted of corn meal, mixed with water, which was given them in drinks from a bucket. As there was no grazing for them in the locality of the camp, the same had been necessary—as was the case in the present instance—the Major made it a point to have them led twice before morning to feed; and this he now attended to himself, without calling upon his servants.

But the two re-entered the hut, and Dick to lie down and get a few hours' rest, so as to relieve Cuba before morning; who was to remain, meantime, on the watch, near the main entrance. He then, side in hand, selected his own position near the horses and the stranger, so that he could hear the least movement of either; and putting out the light, he sat down in the dark, to pass a long, gloomy night, in which anxiety as a fond parent must feel, when, surrounded by perils, he knows the responsibility of protecting those dearer than life itself.

The night, as we have elsewhere said of the day, was chilly, with signs of rain. Toward midnight the wind began to blow in sullen gusts from the east; and when Cuba, who relieved Dick, stepping the canvass, causing the stalwart Dutchman to shrink into a small round head and grease, and, altogether, made such wild, discordant music, as was most unpleasant to the ears of the sable sentinel.

A little after midnight, Dick was called to serve from the cabin, and more once drove on his post. About this time it was the intrinsic; but soon larger drops fell; and an hour later it poured down in torrents—the rain being fiercely driven against the last by gusts of wind that threatened every moment to blow down the mountain. Soon large puddles of water began to form inside the hut under the sleepers' ribs, and the latter were forced to get away. The storm will soon abate, I think," said it to Cuba, as he went on some fresh, and said to the second.

Having thus buried around the hut, and said something to each, and got nothing in return, Cuba, who was a man of a philosophic temperament, quietly composed himself to sleep, expecting to find him awake and attentive, and most admirably fulfilled his duty. To his great surprise, the man appeared to be asleep.

"Perhaps he is dead!" said the Major; and the very thought gave his feelings a shock.

He held the light near his face, and, to his great relief, saw that he was breathing gently, and in a deep sleeping sweetly. He next felt his pulse, and found it beat regularly.

"Well, this is the strangest thing of all!" he said, musingly. "Can he be feigning this? If so, it is the best counterfeit I ever saw. It is impossible! and yet, if he is, I will stake my life that no mad sleeps that way, so much at night as this, with an unarmed enemies. No, I can not keep him longer in bonds."

Saying this, Hargrave drew a hunting knife from a sheath in his bosom, and cut the cords that bound the stranger's limbs. Still he did not wake. He then shook, him—at first gently—and finally with considerable force. Still the stranger opened his eyes, gave a start of surprise, and exclaimed:

"What! reconcile! and I asleep?!"

"Not exactly," said the Major, in his turn surprised also. "You fear not the loss of the drum, but of the elements."

"Your pardon!" returned the stranger, quickly, with no little confusion of manner—"I now comprehend—a terrible storm rages."

"As surely as you are a soldier!"

"Then you are not a soldier!" inquired the stranger, sitting up, turning aside his face, and beginning to clash his limbs, which had been somewhat benumbed by the cords.

"You just made use of a military phrase."

"Ah! true—unconsciously, I did remember—a term I learned when once quartered in a garrison."

"You are a soldier," rejoined the Major, privately; "such not to deny it; for you have just used another military phrase."

"At all events, I am your prisoner."

"No, stranger, you are now free."

"How!" cried the other, in surprise.

"Do you not see I have cut the cords from your limbs?"

"Do you mean by this that you give me liberty?"

"You are free to depart when it suits you."

"What has brought about this change in your conduct, good sir?"

"Why, I did not feel that I was doing exactly right when I bound you; and I was anxious to be on the safe side. Besides, I am satisfied you are not a spy, you black dance, and go and see to the horses! Look to each halter! and if you find one not secure, be sure you make it secure, or your back shall answer for your neglect—Come, Master Hargrave, take yourself out of the way; and if you smoke must dance, go outside, for I'll have no smoking where there is powder. Don't be alarmed, my children—nothing will harm you. Sit down, wife, and try and compose yourself! Why, you would think I never saw a storm before. Do not look so frightened, Gertrude! no danger of our blowing away. The storm will soon abate, I think; and if it don't, we are on terra firma, and safe on the score."

Having thus hurried around the hut, and said something to each, and got nothing in return, the stranger sank, as if exhausted, into a sitting posture, expecting to find him awake and attentive, and most admirably fulfilled his duty. To his great surprise, the man appeared to be asleep.

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SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA:
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1829.

AID TO THE CONVENTION OF THE POOR AND IT ALONE. IT IS NOT A MERE REPRINT OF A DAILY PAPER.

TERMS, &c.

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8 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,)	$10,00 "
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We trust our old Friends the Post-Masters, will exert themselves and get up large Clubs; or if they do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offer themselves, that they will show our Prospectus to other industrious and responsible persons who will be willing to do so.

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We are now publishing, according to promise, the original novelet of

THE BRIDE OF THE WILDERNESS.

By Mrs. Mary A. Denison, author of "Home Pictures, numerous Domestic Sketches, &c.

Also, the following original novelet, entitled

THE STEP MOTHER.

By Mrs. Mary A. Denison, author of "Home Pictures, numerous Domestic Sketches, &c.

Also, the following original novelet, entitled

THE PRIDE OF LIFE;

Or, The Fortunes of Two Families.

By Mrs. Southworth, author of "Vivia," "Clara Moreland," "The Forged Will," &c. Each romance, containing the opening of the story, will be sent to new subscribers until further notice.

This novelet we design following by another called

THE STEP MOTHER.

By Mrs. Mary A. Denison, author of "Home Pictures, numerous Domestic Sketches, &c.

Also, the following original novelet, entitled

SKETCHES BY GRACE GREENWOOD,

Whose brilliant pen will be almost exclusively employed upon the Post and her own little paper for children.

We have made arrangements also for a series of articles from a new star in the literary hemisphere—whose scintillations have been hailed with delight in England. They will be entitled

NEW SERIES OF SKETCHES

BY FANNY FERN.

Mrs. Southworth, whose fascinating works are being rapidly republished in England, also will contribute her old and popular romances with the Post. The next story from her gifted pen will be entitled,

MIRIAM, THE AVENGER:

OR, THE FATAL VOW.

In addition to the above splendid array of Novelists and Sketches—we have made arrangements for the usual supply of Foreign Correspondence from Europe, &c. This will include a series of LETTERS FROM ITALY, written by MRS. DENISON, descriptive of the manners, customs, scenery, &c., of British Guiana.

Our Washington Council to British Guiana, no, also has promised to some letters descriptive of that portion of the South American world.

Engravings, Choice Selections, Agreeable Anecdote, the News, Commercial, Stock, &c., &c., shall be given as heretofore. And in view of the above attractions, inviting a large increase of subscribers, we feel emboldened in asking a continuance of that warm and hearty support which we have received from our readers in years past. It needs but a proper reconsideration of the Post to neighborhood, to induce to swell up our list during the coming year, to the grand total of one hundred thousand subscribers. With that total number we are resolved now not to be satisfied.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

We must reduce our thanks again to our friends for the kind favors by means in which they have fairly flooded us with subscriptions. The New Year's Day, and the succeeding days of Christmas week, recorded in our last number. In the first week of the New Year—after the publication of our last—our increase of subscriptions, or an average of over fifteen hundred a day. Thus, in the first week of the New Year—after the publication of our last—we received over SEVEN THOUSAND names, or old and new subscribers. At this rate, we have every long to bring up our list to the hundred thousand mark. We now print seventeen eight thousand copies weekly. When we get to the one hundred thousand, we intend to print our paper at seventy-five thousand—"more and more to our laurels" till our little correspondence catch up to us. Poor fellows, we are afraid they will have no breath left for bodies by that time. It is not every paper that has the "enterprise" to take such a great contract on his by storm.

BURNING IN EFFIGY.

We see by the "Lexington Telegraph," published at Lexington C. H., South Carolina, that W. H. Talbot, Jr., of the Charleston Mercury, was recently burnt in effigy to a large bonfire, in front of the office of the Hon. Joel Poinsett, of Columbia, in that State. Mr. Talbot's offence was a speech delivered at the last convention of the South Carolina Union, in which it seems that he was speaking of Gunnison Schools, and had incurred the displeasure of some one in the crowd lastly, that the inhering classes had no right to be educated; that the poor man had to work, and it was useless for him to be taught to read and write; that a little education made the people impudent and idle, &c.

If Mr. Talbot, Jr., really did utter such sentiments to those—about on a par with those we recently referred to as being uttered by the late editor of a Kansas Catholic paper at St. Louis—he deserves the pity of the people of his fellow citizens. Every now and then it happens that a man who has been the object of the favors of the people of his native State, or of the State of his adoption, turns out to be the basest of ingrates. Every now and then it happens that a man who has been the object of the favors of the people of his native State, or of the State of his adoption, turns out to be the basest of ingrates. Every now and then it happens that a man who has been the object of the favors of the people of his native State, or of the State of his adoption, turns out to be the basest of ingrates.

OUR HOMES.

Those who wish to see the cheapest and best paper published in the United States, should subscribe for the Saturday Evening Post. It is published at Philadelphia, New York. This inclining to monopolies, we have a word to say for the small weekly—the single sheet, and unstamped. It is also a little peculiar, in having a literary story—a thing very unusual in the country, where politics interest all the world.

A particular description of the machine—in which the "Post" is printed—the engraving of the great wells, &c., are explained and adhered to in a pamphlet, which is sold by a newsboy, called "A Penny Post Ad," published by Messrs. Fowlers & Wells. We have read this before we have seen the machine, and have since seen the machine. Mr. Fowler is entitled both to praise and *profit*, for such a contribution to the science and art of publishing.

So far as the general mail system is concerned, we are indebted to Gen. Fremont for the most important reform. Such mails can be built out with great speed, but with lesser stay, inside of broken rock, square shells, &c., and upholstered, which is larger than the piece of cloth, and the Wire Association—(our readers will be kind enough to excuse us for not knowing the name)—for the grooving system of shells, &c., has proved sufficiently fine to serve us in journeying, and of course, as a consort, is almost indispensable.

Mr. Fowler gives the cost of walls thus constructed, as only one-fifth or one-sixth the price of walls built in the usual way. In this case we consider what an object cheapness is to the poor. How much comfort it will bring to them to procure either brick or building-stone in consequence of the country, we think the inhabitants of every nation, as they read, will be likely to be over-estimated.

In the article on the shops which Mr. Fowler so strongly recommends for houses, we are not so confident. It is no new discovery, though in the form of a novelty to the present generation. The great particularity, that the same amount of wall will thicken much more at the base of it than in a long and narrow form. And while the oblong shape is thus inferior to the square, it is by no means to be compared with the circle, which preaches the circular. For the circle contains the greatest possible amount of area for the cubic contents thereof.

But, after Mr. Fowler has poured with what appears to be unanswerable logic, and has demonstrated, the extent of wall becomes a matter of very little importance. For the only saving of it we shape our buildings is in the cost of wall, and if a more convenient house can be built—more room and light—by the square form on the outside walls, it would be very foolish not to do so.

The octagonal shape, as will be seen by the plan given of the main floor of Mr. Fowler's residence, is very much preferable to the old triangular closets. It does not admit, however, of windows in the sides of the large rooms, as a square or oblong does, but for a house with a handsome suite of large rooms, it will be seen that the eight sides afford room for all that. Were it a square house, each room could have either one or two more windows, at the side.

We admit that small rooms, attached to large ones, are very desirable, in a certain extent—but we are not sure that the octagon is not quite as serviceable as the matter. Each of these little rooms must be furnished, and kept in order; and, where furnished, are liable to be used as a bedroom, of comparatively little use. In the main way, as to closets, it is not possible to have too many at such conveniences!

These little rooms, however, when attached to bed-chambers, may be perhaps deserving of all the praise Mr. Fowler awards to them. As to the plan embraced by Mr. Fowler, it is not very desirable. But we will leave the matter to be settled by the ladies, who ought to know better than gentlemen what is desirable in conveniences and inconveniences of a multitude of small closets and triangular closets.

It will be seen that the octagonal plan does not admit well of a hall or wide entry, extending through the house, as in most of our houses. Accordingly, Mr. Fowler draws his utter opposition to all halls. He says they are a great waste of room, a means of cold and heat evaporation, &c. We do not see how his servants are to answer the bell, without going through the hall to the top-floor—or how, when he has company, and his rooms are called in a magnificent suite, as they should be occasionally for such an event, his later guests are to be taken into the fire-place room, without passing through every room through the midst of those already assembled. As to the cold drafts of a hall, these have their remedy by a stove or fire in a hall, if such be used by a stove from a furnace, a hall diffuses heat through the house, and acts as a magazine of fresh air, with the outside chill taken off, for the use of the house and other rooms which open into it. The facilities therefore in the opinion, that the absence of a hall is a prominent disadvantage of the octagonal style of building.

Mr. Fowler also is a strong advocate of a basement story. We differ from him here entirely. As to looks, we consider his home style as considerably ruined by it. No house we were within a couple of feet of the ground. That the reader may satisfy himself upon this point, let him take a sheet of paper, and cover over the basement story and high front steps of any house in the city, and he will see how much it will add to the appearance. Mr. Fowler's house thus concealed, gains vastly in elegance and appearance from the absence of such.

Mr. Fowler thinks the common objection to basements, that they are damp, is wrong and does state required, is a matter of small importance. He contends that the ladies and servants of a house would rather go up a flight of stairs, than walk four or five times the distance on a level. In this we think he is not to be understood. Many ladies, if we are not much deceived, would rather walk ten or twenty times the distance on a level, than to ascend a flight of stairs. Besides, the liability to the smells of the kitchen and cellar, would be much increased by having a basement. While the floors of the rooms above are no better warmed than they would be by a furnace in the cellar. The light cellar containing a furnace. In summer, moreover, the heat of the basement, coming from the kitchen, is an additional objection to basements.

Mr. Fowler recommends very highly his venetian to every story—extending round the house. We have seen them in use in this city, and we also think very highly of them; but venetians in upper stories are open to the very serious objection of exposing the inside of the room to view. And one, coming out of his own room, and looking up, would be shocked at the impudence to scrutinize of the rude crowd, whose privacy is thus invaded; and the danger of incendiary fires, by the throwing of combustibles through the venetians, which unnecessarily darken the room, is probable. Those who have seen venetians in watering places, which opened upon verandas, will appreciate the force of the objection. We have seen them in the country, where her as privacy; and might which are threatening to be the fashion in the city, we hope not.

Neither the basement-story, nor the upper verandas, however, are necessarily connected with the octagonal style of building. Houses can do not with necessarily condemned on the score of the octagonal style. Houses have been only recently considered, as to its conveniences and inconveniences, before being adopted. Mr. Fowler's residence is certainly a fine one, in its thoroughness and practicability, that we have thought the basement and water upon it, might be those whom we have invited to its perusal, a friendly service.

NOTICE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—We have received a letter from Mr. Fowler, containing information respecting certain persons, connected in some manner or other with the business of the Saturday Evening Post, which we regret we are of a very obliging disposition, we regret to say, we are unable to give the desired investigations of the character referred to—even for a share of the extensive proceeds, when they are known. We are sorry to say that the persons in question are not known to us, and that the only family which has in our large acquaintance in England, is that of the Lord Mayor of London, and which Queen Victoria as has not succeeded in successfully keeping us from the knowledge of. We are sorry that we have not time to devote even to this little affair of our own—a matter probably of some two or three millions—it is not to be supposed that we should devote many of our business hours to an investigation of the claims of other people. The fact is, we would rather have one hundred thousand dollars, made by our own honest industry, than millions of money dollars derived from unascertainable "*estates in Spain.*"

☞ The subscription of twenty thousand names to the Susquehanna and Erie Railroad, now almost upon a like amount being obtained in other quarters, has been so largely raised up the Select and Common Councils of Philadelphia.

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☞ PARABLE OF LORD WATSON.—An iceberg one more recently of Newfoundland—some two months earlier than usual.

GOV. BIGLER'S MESSAGE.

It will be observed by many of you, that during the administration of Governor Shunk, the Legislature of Pennsylvania was induced, by the inefficient manufacturing operations of the State, to sell the Main Line of the Public Works to individuals. In 1845, it was found to embarrassing to the State to keep it, and an Act, for its sale, was adopted, and you will be astonished to learn that, in 1846, it was sold for the sum of $7,500,000. Of this sum, $3,000,000 were paid down in hand. During the years 1847 and 1848, $1,500,000 more were received in the shape of special acts to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, and the last moiety was to be paid in the year 1849. Of the last moiety named, $1,000,000 were paid, and although the law is to the effect that the Canal Commissioners shall not sell, but a single application has been made to them for the purchase of the Main Line, and the finance operations have not been complied with. Governor Bigler, therefore, in his opinion will fully justify the rejection of all applications for the purchase.

In relation to Bank charters, the Governor proclaims his opinion that one power conveyed by the Constitution to the Legislature, is that of granting charters to Banks, and that it is not to be in relation abstractions of our system of finance, but that it is to be well to provide for the gradual withdrawal of all free-dollar notes from circulation—leaving the vacancy to be filled with those which are not promissory, to endorse or altogether to oppose this proposition. He is in favor of the extension of the charters, one not yet fully made plain by any one proposition—Mr. George included. The use of paper money, he says, is to be regulated solely—does undoubtedly save to the community the additional interest of money which, in a circulation of every million, is saved to it. Neither is it any answer to say that saving would be enjoyed by the few, and not the general public, the holders of bank-stock,—for the interest of money is so small, that it go to them, if it were sold upon, instead of the bank-stock, which money the borrower's purpose would be. The saving, in fact, would be that of the community as a whole, for every million of paper money issued.

But we do not design at present, discussing the merits of the Governor's views. We have given out this view as they have appeared to us, doubtedly a money-saving and a labor-saving machine; by employing a steep and handy regulation of the currency, and by a proper combination, instead of that week's insult. And as we have said, we are fully in favor of a specie and paper circulation, and are really convertible into the legal tender for debts, required by the Constitution. The power of contract carrying for the community, as compared with the use of the precious metals, for all other purposes of exchange. Therefore, if our present paper currency be not too large for safety—if it really does represent the specie really convertible, if needful, into gold and silver; to reduce it by the abstraction of five-dollar notes from circulation, and to substitute gold and silver money in their place, would be to loan to the community yearly the sum of the additional specie required to add capital thus employed.

We will make a few observations further the following amendments of the Constitution:

To require that each law shall be passed in a single bill, and not more than one thing; a majority of votes of each House as a call of the Yeas and nays; to provide that all votes of a public nature shall be general in their character, and apply to the whole State; to prohibit local corporations, vested with all the power the Legislature of the State, should not have the right to become subscribers in or holders of the stock of such corporations; to limit the power to creation of debt for any purpose except war; to ballot each Senatorial District with the Governor in the exercise of the pardoning power.

To the first and last of the above amendments we are decidedly opposed, and to the rest especially. Somehow the pardoning power in this State has been grossly abused—and it will be so abused, as long as it is left in the hands of a single man. Let the Governor be a man of the most unexceptionable character, and he will be liable to be imposed with them—but such a radical course of cure is never taken by wise surgeons, except in the extremest cases.

Relative to the troubles at Erie, the Governor is calm, clear and decided. We quote what he says, almost at length, in order that the public mind of other states may be disabused of erroneous impressions upon the subject:—

It must be clear to the impartial observer, that the late disturbances at Erie, had their origin, not in ambition the construction of a Canal Company, and the rights of the Erie Harbor. Indeed the highest judicial tribunal in the *which was supported by the opinion that no such rights can be found in the charter of the Franklin Canal Company*, and that the Legislature had the power to make an such conditions as it thought proper in the grant. Should not have been dis

SATURDAY

EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1864.

Congressional News

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

On M. 30., the Senate resumed the consideration of Mr. Douglas's bill to organize the Territory of Nebraska. He was opposed to the amendment reported by the Committee on Territories, providing that the bill should not take effect until the Indian title should be extinguished. March, 1855. Laid over.

Mr. Pratt presented a petition for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave law. Laid on the table.

Mr. Chase presented the petition for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave law. Laid on the table.

Mr. Seward presented a petition for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave law. Laid on the table.

Mr. Shields offered a resolution, which was passed, directing the Secretary of the Interior to communicate to the Senate the number of acres of land granted to the State of Illinois for the purpose of aiding in the construction of railroads, and how much of the same has been sold by the State, and to whom, and for what price per acre, and how much remains unsold, and what disposition has been made of the money received from the sales of said lands.

Mr. Shields presented a petition, which was referred to the Committee on Public Lands, praying that a grant of land may be made to the State of Illinois to aid in the construction of a railroad from the mouth of the Ohio river to Chicago, in that State.

Mr. Pratt presented a petition, which was referred to the Committee on Public Lands, praying that a grant of land may be made to the State of Indiana to aid in the construction of a railroad from the mouth of the Ohio river to Lake Michigan.

Mr. Douglas moved to take up the bill extending the granting military bounty lands to officers and soldiers.

Mr. Bayard called for the regular order of business, being the resolution offered by him. Mr. Cutting's resolutions censuring the President for his conduct in connection with the Mexican war, and declaring against an executive abuse of his functions, were then taken up. Mr. Bayard addressed the Senate in support of his resolution, and was followed by Mr. Weller, Mr. Benjamin, and Mr. Douglas, in opposition to the same. Mr. Bayard closed the debate in favor of his resolution. Mr. Cutting's resolutions were then rejected by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Bayard, Cutting, Dodge of Iowa, Fitzpatrick, Hunter, Pratt, Seward, Shields, Smith, Sumner, Wade, Walker, Wilson—14.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Atchison, Badger, Bell, Benjamin, Brodhead, Brown, Butler, Clay, Clayton, Dawson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Douglas, Evans, Fish, Fitzgerald, Geyer, Gwin, Houston, Hunter, Jones of Iowa, Jones of Tennessee, Mallory, Mason, Morton, Pearce, Rusk, Sebastian, Slidell, Soulé, Stuart, Thompson of Kentucky, Toombs, Weller, Williams—36.

Mr. Douglas moved to take up the bill extending the granting military bounty lands to officers and soldiers.

Mr. Bayard introduced a bill expanding the granting military bounty lands to officers and soldiers.

Mr. Douglas moved that the bill be made the special order of the day for Tuesday next.

Mr. Bayard moved to amend the motion by making the bill the special order of the day for Monday next.

Mr. Douglas accepted the modification.

Mr. Bayard moved to take up the bill extending the granting system, by establishing private claims to land in Florida.

Mr. Pratt moved to amend the motion by making the Senate's resolutions directing inquiry by the Committee on Foreign Relations into the expediency of having a railroad from some point on the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean, by the most practicable route, and that the resolution proposed to be offered by him, directing the Committee on Public Lands to report a bill providing for the execution of this great measure in charge. He hoped that the Senate would not lose sight of the importance of this subject, and he had to confess that he was disappointed at the course which the Senate had taken in relation to it. Perhaps his friend before him, who, he presumed, was as much in favor of the measure as well, if not better, than any one else, would say, "Let us pass more."

Mr. Stanton, of Tenn., advocated the resolution, as a matter of determining a great question of international law, and as a matter of justice to the people of the United States, who had a right to know whether the navigation and property of his coast and on the people of the United States, who had a right to know whether the navigation and property of his coast and on the people of the United States, who had a right to know whether the navigation and property of his coast and on

Selected Poetry.

THE VOICE OF AUTUMN.

BY W. C. BRYANT.

Yellow leaves and withered flowers
Strew the earth around my bower.
Where I sit in my solitude,
And list the dashing of the flood.

Autumn, with her yellow hair,
Sits in the sunshine by the door,
Binds the sheaves the reapers bear,
And sings the reaping-song once more.

In the rustling of the leaves
That fall around me as I sit,
In the evening's chilly breeze,
In the dashing of the flood,

I hear the voice of Autumn say,
"All that grows shall fade away,
All that blossoms shall be shed,
Fleeting pleasures, youth and bloom,
Love and hope, and all that come,
Like the year, shall die."

Yet around me as I look
Many a cheerful object speaks
Of the spring-time long ago,
Many a tuft of violets peeps
From the grass that thickly grows
Where the last autumn flowers were seen,
And the young leaves of the trees
Wear the pleasant hue of spring,
And the bluebird on the bough
Sings as merrily as he sung
When the summer days were young.

Autumn, with her withered hair,
Sitting in the sunshine there,
Tells me that the days will be
Few and full of misery,
Then the winter winds will blow,
Then the winter snows will fall,
Then the winter frosts will chill
All the bright and beautiful.

Autumn, with her withered hair,
Sitting in the sunshine there,
Tells me that my life